

DISINFECTING EQUIPMENT

Background

Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), cleaning and disinfecting are important in reducing the spread of potentially infectious microorganisms. As a result, Connecticut municipalities are developing and implementing new risk management solutions to keep their facilities clean. CIRMA Risk Management continues to focus on providing additional reference documents and real-world examples related to cleaning and disinfecting workstations and public places.

Scenario

The City of Danbury developed an innovative method to efficiently and effectively disinfect commonly touched surfaces and shared equipment. The City's Do-It-Yourself (DIY) technology simply utilizes 2 self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) tanks and a backpack frame. The step-by-step instructions are as follows:

Prepare Applicator:

- Receive two expired SCBA tanks and a backpack frame from the Fire Department.
- 3M Accuspray (Model 1658) spray gun system and short length ¼" NPT air hose from local auto parts store.
- Construct a quick disconnect from the SCBA Pack to the hose using a male air hose fitting, quick disconnect and brass nipple.
- The 1.4 mm spray nozzle effective for fogging.

Disinfectant Procedure:

- Maxima 256 Disinfectant Cleaner, by Brulin.
- Use concentrated product per manufacturer's recommendation.
- Apply to surfaces while premises are vacated and there is air circulation, as the product can be a respiratory irritant in closed quarters. Follow product's Safety Data Sheet.
- Allow any aerated product to dissipate before reoccupying the premise.

Safety:

- A hazard assessment should be established for the use of this device and product at each facility prior to use.
- The use of this device and product must meet established OSHA programs for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), training, and recordkeeping.

With this technology, the City of Danbury is able to regularly and quickly disinfect City vehicles and other commonly touched surfaces.

CIRMA/Member Partnership

As a member-owned, member-governed organization, CIRMA is driven by the guidance and input of those we serve. Over 120 municipal officials participate in CIRMA's Board of Directors, governing and Advisory Committees; they provide insight into the unique risk management needs of Connecticut's municipalities and public schools.

Tim Nolan, Superintendent of Public Services for the City of Danbury, introduced his team's innovative approach to disinfecting during a Roundtable discussion at a CIRMA Risk Management Advisory Committee meeting. Roundtable discussions are a tool that allow everyone's voice to be heard, and CIRMA moderates a roundtable discussion at each of the quarterly Risk Management Advisory Committee meetings.

CIRMA Risk Management continues to work with all of its committees on identifying possible risk management solutions, such as products and services, to address the risks affecting Connecticut municipalities.

For more information on this topic, please contact your CIRMA Risk Management Consultant. Please visit our training and education program page at CIRMA.org for our current training schedule.